

2023 Annual Report - Athens Radio Club



Officers 2023

Jess Hickey, N4JAH-President
 Phillip Campbell, W4PHC -Vice-President
 Tom Broom, K4THB-Treasurer
 Ed Rollor, N4ZRA-Clarke County ARES
 Bob Herrin, KE4JLL, Public Service Coordinator
 James Reeves-KF4AQO-Club VEC, Repeater Trustee, SkyWarn, ARES Net Manager
 Kathleen McCook, KN4IJM-Secretary
 Special events Coordinator, Claude Ray AC4SH
 Webmaster, Bill McGee, N4WHM

In 2023 the Athens Radio Club (ARC) held 4 Special Events-- Winter Field Day-W4G-coordinated by Claude Ray, AC4SH (January); N1D at Sanford Stadium co-coordinated by Jess Hickey, N4JAH and Claude Ray, AC4SH, (April); ARRL Field Day, W4H- Coordinated by Chris Morgan, KC5BKS. (June); and - Wicked for Halloween-W4H-coordinated by Claude Ray, AC4SH (October).

The ARC held 10 meetings with programs, a swap meet, and a holiday party. A new QSL card was created, stand-up banners were established, and ARC logo gear was organized. The ARC website ([Athens Radio Club](#)) added a new section for Silent Keys. The ioGroups site added many photos from ARC Special Events and meetings.

ARC had a very successful year supporting the hobby. VEC, James L. Reeves, KF4AQO reported 6 testing sessions and 2 ham crams. 47 exams were administered including those who earned Tech and General at one session. 30 individuals earned a license - 27 earned a Tech, 7 earned General, 1 Extra. KF4AQO thanked all VEs who evaluated tests:

VEC- James Reeves, KF4AQO

VEs

- Tom Broom, K4THB
- Phillip Campbell, W4PHC
- Jim Hawkins, KF4RX
- Bob Herrin, KE4JLL
- Jess Hickey, N4JAH
- William Frazier, KO4PLC
- Anthony J Killian, AK4TF
- Leland Lannoye, W9HIF
- Ron Peecher, KN4HKL
- Bill McGee, N4WHM
- Claude Ray, AC4SH
- Frank Roginski, W4FRR
- Ralph Roloson, KB31PT
- Ed Rollor, N4ZRA

Public Service events included the University of Georgia Football Games and races.

Clarke County ARES was active and provided monthly updates.

ARC members were active in Parks on the Air (POTA see website here: [Parks on the Air | POTA | Parks program for amateur radio.](#)). Claude Ray, AC4SH, activated all the state parks in Georgia a POTA Award category with only 2 other operators. Georgia State Parks across the state engaged many ARC members in April 2023.

Elections were held in November. Bill McGee, N4WHM was elected President. Other 2023 officers were re-elected. A new Webmaster is needed.

ARC ended the year with a treasury in good order: \$8,978.97 in Synovus and \$2,641.26 at Pay Pal. Expenditures included monthly repeater energy costs, the club post-office box, rental of facilities at special events and raffle prizes. A donation of \$100 was to the Ga Radio Club.

There were 30 dues paying members in 2023 including 5 life members.

Monthly Meetings



January 3, 2023

Officers 2023 installed:

Jess Hickey, N4JAH-President
 Phillip Campbell, W4PHC -Vice-President
 Tom Broom, K4THB-Treasurer
 Ed Rollor, N4ZRA-Clarke County ARES
 Bob Herrin, KE4JLL, Public Service Coordinator
 James Reeves-KF4AQO Club VEC, Repeater Trustee, SkyWarn, ARES Net Manager
 Kathleen McCook, KN4IJM-Secretary
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 Webmaster, Bill McGee, N4WHM

The Club thanked Howell McKinnon, KM4ZXR for two years of excellent Programs that he organized as Vice-President—especially difficult during COVID.

Program- " Volunteer Examiner Coordinator VEC System." presented by James Reeves, KF4AQO, Repeater Trustee & VEC

Announcements



- Winter Field Day 2023 will be January 28-29, 2023 at Watson Mill Bridge State Park. Participants will get a badge~ This will be a special event with POTA (Claude Ray, AC4SH, Special Events Coordinator).
- Information about UGa Football Communications is posted at the ioGroup [FirstAidDawgs@groups.io | Topics](https://groups.io/g/FirstAidDawgs). (Bob Herrin, KE4JLL- Public Service Coordinator) Upcoming events are Snowflake 10K in Winterville.

February 7, 2023

Program: Presented by Matt Heere N3NWV- Parks on the Air- POTA. (You Tube: [Part I POTA - Matt Heere, N3NWV - Basics through Intermediate Knowledge Base \(youtube.com\)](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=PartI_POTA_MattHeere))

Reports

Winter Field Day was held January 28-29, 2023 and had 25+ attendees. There were 1150 contacts. An album of photos is at the ioGroup. Claude Ray, AC4SH coordinated and has posted about the history and future of Winter Field Day at ioGroups: <https://athensradioclub.groups.io/g/main/message/10893>

Announcements

- POTA Georgia State Parks across the state will be April 1-2, 2023. The idea is to enlist enough hams from all over to fan out across the state and activate 50 parks over the course of that one weekend.
- G-Day is scheduled for April 15, 2023.
- Ham Cram- April 22 at Georgia Bushcraft.
- N1D is a 24-hour event held on the University of Georgia campus to promote the hobby. The Athens Radio Club, in collaboration with the UGA Amateur Radio Club, hosted the 2nd Annual N1D event. Saturday morning, 29 Apr23 (9:00am setup) until after lunch on Sunday, 30Apr23.
- Kathleen McCook, KN4IJM, Secretary, reported about [The Digital Library of Amateur Radio and Communications](https://www.dlarc.org/) (DLARC). The Heritage Room at Athens-Clarke County Library holds more than one hundred archival collections, largely pertaining to Athens-based organizations or persons who lived in Athens. Some of our club records have been submitted. Here is the site for Athens Radio Club at the Athens-Clarke County Library : [Athens Radio Club collection, 1986-2022 | Athens Regional Library System, Heritage Room Archive & Special Collections \(usg.edu\)](https://athens-clarkecountylibrary.org/athens-radio-club-collection-1986-2022/)

March 7, 2023

Program. Presented by Bruce Johnson, KX4AZ "Web SDR. Setting up and Hosting a Web-based SDR."

Announcements:

- POTA Georgia State Parks across the state will be April 1-2, 2023. The idea is to enlist enough hams from all over to fan out across the state and activate 50 parks over the course of that one weekend. In addition to regular POTA credits, there will also be recognition for contacts and activations during the event, including Georgia park-to-park contacts. Information: "Georgia Ham Radio Portable" Facebook group. Website: [Georgia State Parks On The Air \(gaparks.org\)](http://gaparks.org)
- G-Day is April 15, 2023.
- Ham Cram- April 22 at Georgia Bushcraft.
- N1D -29 Apr23 until after lunch on Sunday, 30Apr23. N1D is a 24 hour event held on the University of Georgia campus to promote the hobby. The Athens Radio Club, in collaboration with the UGA Amateur Radio Club, will host the 2nd Annual N1D event operating between Tate Center and UGA Bookstore, at [The Tate North Lawn](http://TheTateNorthLawn.com).

April 4, 2023

Program. John Newton, PhD, University of Georgia, Office of Emergency Preparedness. Responses to Threats of Violence.

Announcements:

- Kelsey Fredericksen, KQ4GUW designed universal QSL cards for club members to review.
- Georgia Parks on the Air. The club call (KD4QHB) and special event call- W4E were registered by Claude Ray, AC4SH. Participants were uploaded to the ioGroups Photo album: main@AthensRadioClub.groups.io | [Photo](#). Here is the Georgia Parks on the Air website: [Georgia State Parks on the Air - GASPOTA \(gaparks.org\)](http://gaparks.org)
- Coming up: G-Day, Ham Cram, N1D. See March 2023 meeting announcements for details.

May 2, 2023

Program: Bob Herrin, KE4JLL -Public Service Coordinator. "Overview of Public Service and Radio Public Service: Focus on activities of the Athens Radio Club." Examples of ARC Public Service:

- Marigold festival
- G-day Game and UGa Games
- UGA-Graduation
- Coach Mike Run
- Daisy Festival

- Snowflake 10K in Winterville

Jess Hickey, N4JAH-President's report on N1D.



Despite the rain overnight Saturday/Sunday, a great time was had on the campus at UGA for the 2nd Annual N1D Special Event Station. Participation was great from both ARC and UGA ARC. A heartfelt thank you to everyone that participated and helped introduce the hobby to others.

We showed up about 830-900 Saturday morning, and were logging contacts by about 1100. We worked on into the early morning hours, with our last contact about 0200. We were concerned about the equipment getting wet (leaky tents), so we secured our stations in hopes the rain would clear by sunrise. That didn't happen, so we broke down camp around 0900.- despite terrible band conditions for the better part of the event, we made 359 total contacts on 5 different bands.- 33 states; 11 countries; nearly 50,000 DX miles talked (doesn't include US contacts); average DX distance was nearly 3,000 miles; we had one person walk up, knew nothing about ham radio, and we (while acting as control operators) allowed him to make contact with a Canadian station...he was very impressed. Farthest contact was New Zealand, nearly 9000 miles away. -Photos have been uploaded to ioGroups.

Bruce P. Johnson - KX4AZ reported about the N1D WSPR 30m beacon.

The N1D beacon was spotted by 101 unique stations from Friday afternoon through noon today. The *closest* spotter station was N4JAH, a call sign that sounds vaguely familiar ;>. The long distance record goes to OE3XE in Austria. To the north, west, and east the DX spotters were in Alberta, Canada, Hawaii, and Costa Rica. As noted previously, wspr.rocks is the *only* web site I recommend for viewing WSPR mode results....pskreporter is useless (despite 'WSPR' in the dropdown menu), and the original wsprnet.org site is just too primitive.

Announcements:

- CCARES- Ed Rollor, N4ZRA updated on CCARES. Noted that there will be a Classic City Marathon in January 2024 <https://classiccitymarathon.com/course-information>

- Field Day is June 24-25, 2023. Firestation #7. 2350 South Barnett Shoals Road, Athens, Georgia, 30605. Field Day, W4H- Coordinated by Chris Morgan, KC5BKS.

June, 2023

June 6, 2023

No business meeting.



Swap Meet in Fire station #2 Parking Lot. Pictures in Photo album at ioGroups.

Field Day June 24-25, 2023.

2023 Field Day, June 24-25 at Fire Station 7 -coordinated by Chris Morgan, KC5BKS. Set-up crew: Chris Morgan KC5BKS, Colin Cameron, KO4IZK (Coordinator), Claude Ray AC4SH, Phillip Campbell W4PHC



Message from Field Day Coordinator, Chris Morgan, KC5BKS:

Thanks to everyone that made it out to the ARRL Field Day event this year. I don't know the actual count, but we had a lot of people there over the course of the event. Thanks to all who brought food, helped with setup and take down. Also, special thanks to Kathleen for doing all the documenting of the event. It takes a lot of people to make this event happen!

As for the radio operation, I have done some preliminary calculating. We operated as a class 3A station for a total of 788 QSOs for 1,019 QSO points. The additional Get on the Air (GOTA) station had 84 QSOs for 420 QSO pts. This totaled 872 QSOs and 1,439 QSO points. With our 100-watt power multiplier, we earned a QSO score of 2,878. The breakdown was 41 CW contacts, 190 digital contacts and 641 phone contacts. Thanks to Scott, KW4NJA, and Max, KO4EEX, for really ramping up our CW contacts. And thanks to Dave, W3DJS, and Garret, KO4UOF, as well for really upping our digital score.

As for bonus points, we should qualify for 1,350 points. This would give us a potential total score of 4,228 points! I would consider this to be very successful and we should be proud of these results. As a comparison, we had 747 QSOs and a total score of 2,624 last year. The score is not everything, but I believe it is important to always do our best and strive for self-improvement.

I think for both big events this year, Winter Field Day and ARRL Field Day, the club has performed admirably and is getting better at these events. We are seeing a good number of new operators making an impact. This is what it is all about. Please reach out and let me know what you think went well and what areas we can work on. Thanks again for all help!!!
Colin - KO4IZK. A Field Day Photo Album was posted at ioGroups:
main@AthensRadioClub.groups.io | [Album](#)

August 1, 2023

Program: Leland Lannoye, W9HIF, "Churchill's Secret Messages."

Public Service Report. Jess Hickey for Bob Herrin, KE4JLL

Milledge Mile : We had a great turnout for the Milledge Mile on Saturday! The folks in charge of the race were very happy to have us there - we are the only way they can synchronize the clock accurately, Check the club Facebook page for a few photos. Thanks to: James, KF4AQO; Mark, W0GZR; Jess, N4JAH; Claude AC4SH and Rick, N6RIK.

Announcements:

- August 5, 2023 is the Coach Mike (Mosquito) Run.
- Football Schedule will be posted on the ioGroups Message Board.
- Huntsville Hamfest is August 19-20. Claude Ray, AC4SH will attend and speak about POTA .

- Shelby Hamfest is September 1-2
- The Georgia Fall POTA Sprint will take place October 28 while the club is at Hard Labor Creek State Park for the W4H Halloween event.
- Georgia POTA- GAPOTA- will be held April 6-7, 2024. See website: [Georgia State Parks on the Air - GASPOTA \(gaparks.org\)](https://www.gaspota.org/)

September 5, 2023

Program: Nathan Wood, K4NHW. "DXing--Operating from the Other side of the Pile Up." Haiti, Jamaica, Dry Tortugas, Trinidad & Tobago, Curacao, Bonaire, Sweden, Finland, Svalard — Jess Hickey, N4JAH moderating.

Public Service - KE4JLL - Bob Herrin

- Football season. First game was September 2 against UT-Martin. Next games Ball State, September 9; South Carolina, Sept.16. If anyone is interested in providing communications for UGA home games in 2023 contact Bob Herrin, KE4JLL.
- Clarke County Middle School Owl Flight 5K will be September 30, 2023
- Atlanta Track Club Marathon - [Home of the AJC Peachtree Road Race | Atlanta Track Club](https://www.atlantatrackclub.com/marathon/)

Special Events- Claude Ray, AC4SCH

Presented about Georgia Parks on the Air at Huntsville Hamfest.



W4H will be October 28, 2023. Hard Labor Creek

Announcements

- Stone Mountain HamFest 50th Anniversary - Nov 4-5, 2023
- Georgia POTA (Parks on the Air) will be held April 6-7, 2024. See Facebook page: [\(9\) Georgia State Parks On The Air | Facebook](https://www.facebook.com/georgiapota/) You Tube promo: [\(3\) Georgia State Parks on the Air Event 2024 - YouTube](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3GjGjGjGjGj)

- Georgia QSL Party is 2nd weekend in April, 2024- [Welcome to the Georgia QSO Party Webpage \(gagsoparty.com\)](http://Welcome%20to%20the%20Georgia%20QSO%20Party%20Webpage%20(gagsoparty.com).com)

October 3, 2023

Program: Bill McGee (N4WHM), Athens Radio Club Webmaster: "Athens Radio Club Web Site-Analytics."

Public Service. Bob Herrin, KE4JLL, Information about UGa Football Communications is posted at the ioGroup FirstAidDawgs@groups.io | [Topics](#)

- Next game is Saturday, October 7.
- Upcoming events are Snowflake 10K in Winterville on January 13, 2024.: [10th Annual Winterville Snowflake 10K \(runsignup.com\)](http://10th%20Annual%20Winterville%20Snowflake%2010K%20(runsignup.com).com)
- Classic City Marathon in Athens [Classic City Marathon \(squarespace.com\)](http://Classic%20City%20Marathon%20(squarespace.com).com)

Special Events- Claude Ray, AC4SCH.



For our 3rd year, the Athens Radio Club is hosting the Wicked 4 Halloween special event POTA station at Hard Labor Creek State Park K-2184 in Rutledge, GA on 28 October 2023, Picnic Shelter #1 There will be round-table, pass the mic activation.

Elections

Bill McGee, N4WHM accepted nomination as president for 2024. Other officers, Phillip Campbell, W4PHC -Vice-President; Tom Broom, K4THB-Treasurer and Kathleen McCook, KN4IJM agreed to stand for re-election. Additional nominations will be accepted until November 7, 2023.

November 7, 2023

Program: No Formal Program. Members shared some of the items used for POTA, Antenna's and favorite gear.

Kathleen McCook, KN4IJM, noted that "Georgia on My Mind," the ARRL Georgia section newsletter is uploaded every month to files at ioGroups. News of ARC included.

Election

2024 Officer Elections.



Outgoing President, Jess Hickey, N4JAH and Incoming President Bill McGee, N4WHM

Officers for 2024 identified and approved 100% by present members:



Bill McGee - N4WHM

Phillip Campbell - W4PHC

Kathleen McCook - KN4IJM

Tom Broom - K4THB

President

Vice President

Secretary, Archives

Treasurer

Public Service. Bob Herrin, KE4JLL, Information about Uga Football Communications is posted at the ioGroup FirstAidDawgs@groups.io | [Topics](#)

- Next game is Saturday, November 11.
- Upcoming events are Snowflake 10K in Winterville on January 13, 2024.: [10th Annual Winterville Snowflake 10K \(runsignup.com\)](https://runsignup.com)
- Classic City Marathon in Athens [Classic City Marathon \(squarespace.com\)](https://squarespace.com)
- Marathon is same date as Second day of Winter Field Day. An email will be forthcoming for members to advise which they want to do. Sign-Up at ARC website.

Special events Coordinator, Claude Ray AC4SH.

Kelsey Fredericksen, KQ4GUW designed universal QSL cards for club members vote selected this one.



Outgoing President, Jess Hickey, N4JAH given a tribute by James Reeves, KF4AQO-VEC, Repeater Trustee, SkyWarn, (also a past-president).

There will be no December meeting, but a club holiday luncheon will be held at Fire Station #2 on December 2, 2023. The hours will be from around Noon - 3pm. The Station Community room is reserved for the day. Phillip Campbell, W4PHC -Vice-President will coordinate.

There WILL be a VE Session on Tuesday December 5, 2023.

December 2, 2023



Holiday luncheon was held at Fire Station #2 on December 2, 2023. Phillip Campbell, W4PHC -Vice-President coordinated. Photos posted at ioGroups Photo Album.

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